

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 53080
Yoichi IZUMI, et al. : Confirmation Number: 8650
Application No.: 10/511,199 : Group Art Unit: 1795
Filed: October 12, 2004 : Examiner: Aliz Elizabeth Echelmeyer
For: ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER REFERENCES AFTER CLOSE OF PROSECUTION AND
BEFORE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Please charge the processing fee under 1.17(p) of **\$180.00** to Deposit Account 500417.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references, with the exceptions of **US 6,040,087** and **US 6,329,101 B1**, were cited in a corresponding European Search Report or corresponding Japanese Office Action and their relevance are discussed therein. Copies of the European Search Report and Japanese Office Action are attached for the Examiner's information.

Please note the reference **JP 36-8018** listed on the attached Japanese Office Action was previously submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 12, 2004.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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